Sl. No.	Name of the country	Area of Cooperation
3.	Iran	A Memorandum of Understanding with the Islamic Republic of Iran for cooperation in the field of Animal Health and a Health Protocol thereunder is likely to be signed. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, especially Health Protocol was necessitated to facilitate export of buffalo meat to Iran.
4.	Myanmar	A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed with the Governmenmt of the Union of Myanmar for cooperation in the field of Agricultural Science and Technology with the objective of increasing agricultural production.
5.	Namibia	A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed with Namibia for cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors. The draft Memorandum of Understanding prepared by the Ministry of External affairs was sent to the Namibian side on 14th May, 1997 for comments.
6.	Thailand	A Memorandum of Understanding has been developed for cooperation with the Government of Kingdom of Thailand for cooperation in the field of Agricultural Science and Technology through Joint Activities and Exchanges. Such joint activities will be in areas of agricultural research, crop production, horticulture, livestock production and health etc.

Panna and Mukta Oil fields

*150. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has given a report for the Panna and Mukta Oil fields pointing out a number of irregularties therein;

(b) whether it is a fact that at the time of inviting bids for production of a total of 31.35 million tonnes of oil reserve were shown as against the actual reserves of 54.25 million tonnes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that ONGC was offered a rate of Rs.1741/—per tonne whereas the private companies were offered the rate of Rs.4545/—per tonne; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for this variation and what is the quantum of loss incurred by Government on this account?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) CAG in their final report No. 5 (Commercial) of 1996 on "participation of private parties with ONGC in production of crude oil and natural gas" made observation interalia relating to non-reimbursement of past cost of ONGC, bid evaluation

criteria, non-opening of bids in public, reserve variation for Panna & Mukta Oil Fields etc. This report was laid on the Table of the House on 27.2.1997.

(b) The reserve estimate of 31.1 MMT given by ONGC in the information docket was based on feasibility reports prepared by ONGC for Panna and Mukta in 1990.

(c) ONGC has a 40% participating interest under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC), and under the PSC, ONGC as well as the private companies are paid the same international price of crude. For their stand-alone operations, ONGC/OIL are paid a cost plus price under the Administered Pricing Mechansim (APM). Under the APM, ONGC/OIL were earlier paid Rs.1741/- per metric tonne net of cess and royalty which has now been revised to Rs.1991/ per metric tonne. As against this, there is no fixed specific rate of payment under the PSC and the actual price fluctuates along with variations in the international price of reference crudes. The price paid under the PSC is inclusive of cess and royalty.

(d) Variation in reserves occurred due to interpretation of 3-D data and

Quantity of Toxic Lead Waste

*151. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is reported in various quarters that inspite of Delhi High Court's ban on waste import, the quantity of toxic lead waste brought into India from industrialised nations has doubled during the last year,

(b) if so, whether Government have assessed the authenticity of such reports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) It has been reported in the Times of India, New Delhi on 7th April, 1997 that the quantity of toxic lead waste brought into India from industrialised countries has doubled during the last year. This has also been stated by the petitioner in Writ Petition No.657/95, in the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case titled. Research Foundation for Science, Technology & Ecology, New Delhi versus the union of India.

(b) and (c) The authenticity of the above mentioned report about imports was assessed with the Directorate General of foreign Trade (DGFT), Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), and the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), As per information made available by the DGFT, lead scraps identified by their designated codes (Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries Inc., Washington—ISRI), i.e., Racks, Radio, Relays, Ropes and Roses under the Export & Imort (EXIM) code No.780200 00.10, and battery scrap identified by thieir ISRI codes Rails and Rakes under EXIM code No.854810 00.10, were made freely importable vide notification No. 4/92-97 dated 11.07.96. The DGFT has not issued any import licence for lead wastes/battery scrap during the period from 1.4.96 to 31.3.97. From 1.4.97 all lead wastes/battery scrap have been restricted for imports in the EXIM Policy.

As per letter of DGCIS addressed to DGFT, party-wise information along with Importer and Exporter Code. (IEC) is not compiled by DGCIS.

The import of hazardous wastes is regulated under Rule 11 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. According to these rules exporters are to seek permission from the Ministry of Environment & Forests to export wastes to India and on receipt of such